United Nations ST/IC/2000/39

Secretariat

24 May 2000

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff at Headquarters

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: **United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Famine in Ethiopia**

1. Once again, 15 years after a devastating famine in Ethiopia, almost 8 million people are facing an increasing threat of famine after drought devastated crops across a large area of the country. Children and the elderly are dying of hunger and many more are at risk. The drought-stricken areas have received no viable rainfall for three years.

2. International relief agencies have generously responded. However, millions of people will depend on outside aid for several months to come. With the approval of the Secretary-General, the Staff Committee has established a committee of volunteers for the Staff Relief Committee for Famine in Ethiopia to appeal for funds to alleviate the suffering of the victims. The Committee is composed of: Ms. Mekdes Gebre-Medhin as Chairperson; Ms. Maureen Otto as Coordinator; Ms. Christiane Leboeuf as Treasurer; and Ms. 'M'ampela Mpela, Mr. Seymour Edwards, Ms. Rita Bewry, Ms. Genoveva Wallach, Mr. Emad Hassanin and Mr. Guruge Bandula as members.

3. Collection of contributions will begin on Wednesday, 31 May 2000. An account has also been established by the Treasurer at the United Nations Federal Credit Union, where staff can make direct deposits until 30 June 2000 to the following account:

United Nations Staff Relief Committee for Ethiopia
Account No. 170219

4. Staff who are overseas and would like to contribute can do so by sending a wire transfer to the account number given above, using ABA #: 2260-7860-9.

5. Contributions will be donated to the Office of the Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs for disbursement.

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* Expiration date of the present information circular: 30 June 2000.

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